



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 SB 2

**Senate
Amendments 1, 2 and 3**

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Current Law and Senate Bill 2

Current law provides that a campaign disbursement or obligation that is not made or incurred by a candidate or an entity primarily organized for political purposes nevertheless is required to be reported to the Elections Board if the purpose of the disbursement or obligation is to expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate. Current law also imposes registration and reporting requirements on those individuals or entities making contributions or disbursements for political purposes.

Senate Bill 2 adds to the definition of the term “political purposes” by specifically including a communication made by means of one or more communications media or a mass mailing, or through a telephone bank operator, that is made within 60 days preceding an election and that includes a name or likeness of a candidate, the name of an office to be filled at that election or the name of a political party. The term “telephone bank operator” is defined to mean any person who places or directs the placement of telephone calls to individuals.

Senate Amendment 1

Senate Amendment 1 amends the definition of the term “telephone bank operator” to mean a person who places or directs the placement of 50 or more substantially identical telephone calls to individuals.

Senate Amendment 1 was adopted by the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs by a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, on January 24, 2001.

Senate Amendment 2

Senate Amendment 2 provides that anyone who makes a communication described in the bill and who fails to comply with campaign registration or reporting requirements will be subject to a civil forfeiture of not more than three times the amount or value of the cost of the communication. Criminal penalties will not apply.

Senate Amendment 2 was adopted by the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs by a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, on January 24, 2001.

Senate Amendment 3

Senate Amendment 3 provides that a communication only including the name of a political party will not be considered a communication made for a political purpose.

Senate Amendment 3 was adopted by the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs by a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, on January 24, 2001.

Senate Bill 2 was recommended for passage, as amended, by the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs by a vote of 3 Ayes, 2 Noes, on January 24, 2001.